CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for processing network management data in a network management system that generates Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) events, for presentation in an event log display to a user, when SNMP event conditions are detected during the monitoring of a network, the method comprising:

receiving network management data relating to an SNMP event condition;

adding a normal event log entry to the event log display, the normal event log entry corresponding to the event, when the number of preceding equivalent events is less than a predetermined number in a preceding time period;

~~adding a recurring event log entry to the event log display, the recurring event log entry corresponding to the event, when (i) the event does not already have recurring event status and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period; and~~

responsive to determining an event corresponds to an already recurring event, updating at least one existing log event entry by marking the at least existing one log event entry as recurring; and

maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than the predetermined number in the preceding time period, wherein excluding an indication of the event from the event log display comprises excluding an indication of a normal event log entry to the event log display,

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wherein the normal event log entry is a log entry indicating the event does not correspond to the already recurring event.

2-3.   (cancelled)

4.   (previously presented)   A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising adding a time stamp to the event data of the recurring event, the time stamp indicating the time of the subsequent occurrence of the event condition.

5.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the preceding time period is an immediately preceding predetermined time period.

6-7.   (cancelled)

8.   (currently amended) A method for processing a network management data in a network management system that generates Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) events, for presentation in an event log display to a user, when SNMP event conditions are detected during the monitoring of a network, the method comprising:

receiving network management data relating to an SNMP event condition;

determining whether the monitored characteristic for the SNMP event condition is in a recurring state;

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responsive to determining that the monitored characteristic is in a recurring state, determining whether the event condition has occurred more than a first predetermined number of times in a first preceding time period; and

responsive to determining that the event condition has occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first preceding time period, (a) updating at least one existing log event entry by marking the at least one existing log event entry as recurring and (b) preventing the received data relating to the event condition from being presented in the event log display to the user.

9-11.   (cancelled)

12.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising adding to event data of the event in the recurring state the time of the received data relating to the event condition.

13.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising generating an event for presentation in the event list log display to the user when it is determined that the event condition has not occurred more than the first predetermined number of times in the first immediately preceding time period.

14.   (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the generated event is not a recurring event.

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15.   (original) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein it is determined that the monitored characteristic for the event condition is not in a recurring state, the method further comprises determining whether a second predetermined number of equivalent events have been generated in a second preceding time period.

16.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 15, the method further comprising generating a recurring event when it is determined that the second predetermined number of equivalent events have been generated in the second preceding time period.

17.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, after the step of generating a recurring event, the method further comprises receiving data relating to a subsequent occurrence of the event condition, and preventing a subsequent event from being presented in the event log display to the user.

18.   (original) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising, after the step of receiving data relating to a subsequent occurrence of the event condition, adding a time stamp to the event data of the recurring event, the time stamp indicating the time of the subsequent occurrence of the event condition.

19.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 15, the method further comprising generating an event for presentation in the event ~~list~~ log display to the user when

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it is determined that the second predetermined number of equivalent events have not been generated in the second preceding time period.

20.   (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the first or second preceding time period is an immediately preceding predetermined time period.

21.   (previously presented) A computer readable medium including a computer program for carrying out the steps of:

receiving network management data relating to an SNMP event condition;

adding a normal event log entry to the event log display, the normal event log entry corresponding to the event, when the number of preceding equivalent events is less than a predetermined number in a preceding time period;

~~adding a recurring event log entry to the event log display, the recurring event log entry corresponding to the event, when (i) the event does not already have recurring event status and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than a predetermined number in the preceding time period; and~~

<u>responsive to determining an event corresponds to an already recurring event, updating at least one existing log event entry by marking the at least one existing log event entry as recurring; and</u>

maintaining the event log display by excluding an indication of the event from the event log display when (i) the event corresponds to an already recurring event and (ii) the number of preceding equivalent events is greater than a predetermined number in the preceding time period, wherein excluding an indication of the event from the event log display

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comprises excluding an indication of a normal event log entry to the event log display, wherein the normal event log entry is a log entry indicating the event does not correspond to the already recurring event.

22.   (cancelled)

23.   (previously presented) A network management apparatus for monitoring a network and for processing network management data and generating Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) events, for presentation in an event log display to a user, when SNMP event conditions are detected, the apparatus comprising a processor for receiving network management data relating to an SNMP event condition, and for determining whether a predetermined number of equivalent SNMP events have been generated in a preceding time period, designating the event as being in a recurring state when the predetermined number of equivalent SNMP events have been generated in the preceding time period, responsive to determining an event corresponds to an already recurring event, updating at least one existing log event entry by marking the at least one existing log event entry as recurring, and ignoring subsequent event conditions associated with recurring events as long as the event condition remains in a verified recurring state.

24.   (cancelled)

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